

**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No. PTK-228

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT(S): Theriault et al.  
SERIAL NO.: Not yet assigned GROUP NO.: Not yet assigned  
FILING DATE: August 18, 2003 EXAMINER: Not yet assigned  
TITLE: Plate Handling with Thermal Tensioning

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby make of record the patents and publications listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449, and other information contained herein, for consideration by the Examiner in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. Copies of the patents and publications are enclosed.

**REMARKS**

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.97, this statement is being filed (CHECK ONE):

- (1) within three (3) months of the **filing date** of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(d), or within three (3) months of the **date of entry of the national stage** as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing of the **first Office action** on the merits, or before the mailing of a **first Office action** after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. 1.114; or
- (2) after the period defined in (1) but before the mailing date of a **final action** or a **notice of allowance** under 37 C.F.R. 1.311, and
- the requisite Statement is below, **OR**
- the requisite fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p), namely **\$180.00**, is included herein, or

- (3) after the mailing date of a **final action or notice of allowance** but before the payment of the **issue fee**, **AND**
- the requisite Statement is below, **AND**
- the requisite petition fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p), namely **\$180.00** is included herein.

It is respectfully requested that each of the patents and publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, and other information contained herein, be made of record in this application.

#### STATEMENT

As required under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e), Applicant(s), through the undersigned, hereby state either that [check the appropriate space only if either (2) or (3) is checked on the previous page and the Statement is required]:

1. Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application **not more than three months** prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement; or
2. No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this Statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to **any individual** designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) **more than three months** prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,



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SHEET 1 OF 1

<b>FORM PTO - 1449</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: PTK-228 APPLICANT(S): Theriault et al. SERIAL NO.: Not yet assigned FILING DATE: August 18, 2003 GROUP: Not yet assigned
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**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAM. INIT.		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A1	6,202,556 B1	3/20/01	Lagger	101	216	12/3/99
	A2	5,477,779	12/26/95	Kawabe	101	116	8/15/94
	A3	5,452,657	9/26/95	Kurz	101	216	8/5/94
	A4	4,779,337	10/25/88	Keller	29	800	6/4/86
	A5	4,134,340	1/16/79	Larson	101	127.1	4/13/77
	A6	4,026,208	5/31/77	Horne, Jr. et al.	101	116	5/13/75
	A7	3,759,800	9/18/73	Reinke	204	16	9/27/71

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAM. INIT.		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY CODE	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE	ABSTRACT ONLY	ENGLISH LANG (Y/N)

**OTHER ART, JOURNAL ARTICLES, ETC.**

EXAM. INIT.	OTHER DOCUMENTS: (Including Author, Title, Date, Relevant Pages, Place of Publication)								
EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED								